THE OPTICAL
MAGIC LANTERN
JOURNAL
AND
PHOTOGRAPHIC ENLARGER.

EDITED BY J. HAY TAYLOR.

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Notices.

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Notes.

WE would remind those who have a copy of No. 1 to spare, that this journal will be sent post-free for six months in exchange for it. Address, The Editor.

* * *

THE Camera Club has removed to its new premises, in Charing Cross-road, and as soon as the fitting up has been completed (1) a house-warming (2) and a special smoking concert will be held.

* * *

THE members of the Manchester Amateur Photographic Society are evidently plentiful makers of lantern slides, for the committee have decided that no one member shall be allowed to exhibit more than eighteen slides at any of their open lantern meetings. We would direct their attento the letters of Messrs. Duncan and Blandy, on page 86, who request the loan of slides for entertaining Hospital patients.

* * *

THE works of the late O. G. Rejlander have been acquired by the Fry Manufacturing Co., who intend publishing them in various forms, including transparencies for the lantern.

* * *

MR. WOLLASTON writes to inform us that the National Photographic Exhibition and Lantern Lectures will be held at the Crystal Palace from April 13 to May 2.

* * *

WE learn from Mr. William Tylar, of Birmingham, that he intends shortly introducing binocular lanternescopes, on the lines suggested in our first article in last issue. Few persons will resist the temptation of purchasing, if once they are afforded the opportunity of inspecting a slide in a binocular lanternescope.

* * *

HUMPHRIES & Co.'s Quadrant Hand Camera, of which we gave a description last June, is about to start on a photographic trip around the world. It will doubtless unfold a wondrous tale on its return.

"A POPULAR evening for the people" is held every Friday, at Lockfield's Mission, Rodney-road, S.E. The Rev. J. Meakin, having obtained permission from several illustrated papers, has the pictures reproduced as lantern slides, and thus illustrates interesting lectures, termed, *The News of the Day*. Admission free. Mr. A. E. Wade, 177, Walworth-road, makes the slides for each entertainment.

* * *

WE learn that an Edinburgh gentleman who had recently engaged to give an exhibition, failed to get his oxygen cylinder from Glasgow, owing to the disorganization of traffic, and had at the last moment to fall back on his old oxy-generator and gasometer, which was a rather clumsy substitute.

* * *

MR. T. BERRY, of Dundee, writing on the subject of oils for lanterns, says : "After experimenting carefully with various kinds of petroleum and paraffin oils, common and refined, I have found the best light, with freedom from any smell, is obtained by using the Luxor oil. Being filtered and perfumed, it is also admirably adapted for use in microscopic and table lamps.

* * *

No. 48, Waterloo-road seems too small for Mr. Walter Tyler to conduct his increasing business in, so he has obtained a lease of No. 50 also, and intends making the two shops into one.

* * *

THE name of the North Middlesex Photographic Club has been changed to the North Middlesex Photographic Society.

* * *

LITTLE by little the lantern is becoming more popular for the illustration of Sunday lectures. Mr. Herbert Ward (Stanley rear guard), for the National Sunday League, at Shoreditch Town Hall, recently gave an interesting lecture (illustrated) entitled, "The Congo Cannibals of Central Africa." Dr. Aubrey lately gave what was advertised as "a grand oxy-hydrogen limelight display and descriptive account of Irish Life and Shadowing," at the Hackney Reform Club. Lectures of this nature are largely attended on Sunday evenings. Perhaps, eventually, all churches will be provided with a huge white space, in place of a stained glass window, and a snug little gallery opposite for the lantern and operator, whilst the minister will, with the aid of an optical pointer, draw attention to the various parts of the pictures or diagrams about which he is discoursing.

* * *

FOR the purpose of taking in hand the hospital scheme for giving lantern entertainments to the patients, a working committee of three has been formed, viz., Messrs. A. R. Dresser, Springfield, Bexley Heath ; Chas. E. Rendle, Alma-road, Canonbury ; and J. Hay Taylor. If those friends who kindly promised to donate slides, apparatus, or cash (however small) will forward same to J. Hay Taylor (LANTERN JOURNAL), Dorset Works, Salisbury-square, London, E.C., these entertainments can be commenced at once.

Plain Photographs Projected in Colours.

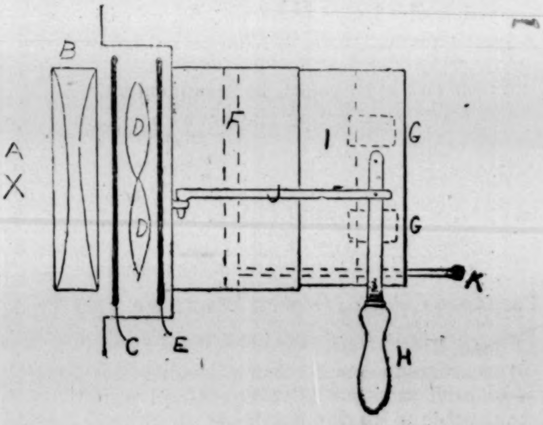
THROUGH the kindness of the inventor, Mr. Albert Scott, of Weston-super-Mare, we have had an opportunity of examining and trying his new lantern, which is termed the Verak. The general arrangement displays great ingenuity, and the results as seen on the screen are very striking.

In order to see transparencies in colour, negatives must be taken four on a plate (isochromatic), each lens being provided with a coloured screen ; these colours are green, blue, red, and violet.

To make the exposures of the same duration the lenses are provided with stops of different sizes. Transparencies are made from the negatives, which by preference should be somewhat dense to produce brilliant colours.

The four transparencies contained on the one plate present different local gradations of intensity according to the colours of the object photographed.

The cut shows the order in which the lenses, slides and coloured screens are placed in the lantern : *A*, the light ; *B*, main condenser ; *C*, screen, containing the four colours through which the negative was exposed ; *D*, set of four auxiliary condensers ; *E*, the Verak slide ; *F*, registering lens ; *G*, four projecting lenses ; *H*, lever for focusing ; *I*, sliding tube containing the four



lenses; *J*, fulcrum for focusing lever; *K*, rod by which *F* is moved.

The transparencies are placed respectively in front of the same colours through which they were photographed, and when they are projected on the screen, may at first present the appearance of four pictures in the different colours in a confused state. These are registered by moving the handle *H* sideways, parallel with the screen, which gives a twist to the tube *I*, whilst they are finely adjusted or centred by pushing in or withdrawing *K*, which actuates the lens *F*. In the case of a photograph of a shop front, the various colours of goods in the window presented a fine appearance, the different colours being well depicted.

Owing to the density of the coloured screens through which the light has to penetrate, a strong illuminant must be employed. With a blow-through jet we obtained pictures about 4ft. square, but with a mixed jet of large bore there is no reason why a picture twice the size should not be produced; but in this case the audience would require to be some distance from the screen so as to overcome the difficulty of exact registration, for it must be remembered that the pictures being taken from points slightly apart, *absolute* registration is impossible, but by confining the projected pictures to somewhat small diameter, this defect is lessened, and unless viewed at close quarters it is not noticeable.

In the 4ft. picture spoken of, the lantern was placed about 10ft. distant, whilst the pictures looked best from a distance of several feet beyond this.

We projected about two dozen slides, which Mr. Scott informs us are *apprentice* work, but after one gets fairly in working order, there is no doubt that very fine results can be obtained.

Arrangements are being made to publicly exhibit the effects produced by the Verak, and those who are privileged to be present will see something of a decidedly novel character.

——:o:——

A Mystery.

A CORRESPONDENT asks us for a solution of a strange explosion which happened when he was using an ether saturator. Failing to be able to assign any definite reason we consulted several experts in the use of saturators, but so far without being able to give a satisfactory answer. The particulars are herewith published, in the hope that some of our readers may be able to afford some information:—

> A single lantern and gas bottle fitted with Clarkson's regulator were employed, with Noakes' intermediate regulator at jets, also a pair of safety tubes, with a leather valve working up and down. The saturator was carefully filled, drained, and weighed, and placed on a shelf underneath the lantern, whilst the gas bottle was secured in an upright position, the top being a considerable distance above the level of the jets. After a two hours' exhibition the oxygen was first turned out, and on turning off the ether side a tremendous bang took place, and when the tube was detached from the regulator a flame like a gas burner was found. There was at the time a good supply of oxygen left in the bottle.

——:o:——

Hand Cameras for Obtaining Slides for the Lantern.

	"Facile"... ...	(Fallowfield)	see	March 1st, 1890
No. 1	"Giah"	(Mawson & Son)	,,	May 1st, ,,
,, 2	"Quadrant" ...	(W. H. Humphries & Co.)	,,	June 1st, ,,
,, 3	"Eclipse" ...	(J. F. Shew & Co.)... ...	,,	July 1st, ,,
,, 4	"Eureka" ...	(W. W. Rouch & Co.) ...	,,	Aug. 1st, ,,
,, 5	"Key"	(Platinotype Co.)	,,	Sept. 1st, ,,
,, 6	"Optimus" ...	(Perken, Son & Rayment)	,,	Oct. 1st, ,,
,, 7	"The Griffin"	(Griffin & Sons, Limited)	,,	Nov. 1st, ,,
,, 8	"The Swinden-Earp" Patent	... ...	,,	Dec. 1st, ,,

No. 9.—COLLINS' DETECTIVE CAMERA.

THIS camera—which is furnished with dark slides—is made by E. G. Collins, of Cochrane-street, St. John's Wood, and measures 9¼in. × 7¼in. × 5¼in. The case which contains the camera proper is neatly covered with solid leather, stitched at the corners. On opening the box—which is secured with a secret catch—the working parts are presented to view. These take the form of a complete bellows camera, the various adjustments of which can be made by small knobs on the outside of the case. A milled head at the lower portion serves for focussing, there being a graduated scale underneath, on which a pointer travels.

Three double dark slides are contained in the camera, also a focussing-glass, should it be necessary on special occasions to use one, in which case a small square-hinged door opens in the rear of the box.

The lens is a rapid rectilinear of 6in. equivalent focus, and covers the plate well to the corners. The dark slide having been placed in position, and the shutter withdrawn, the box may be closed up for exposure. The exposure shutter is a beautiful piece of mechanism, and can be regulated with a great degree of nicety, whilst it can be liberated by a very slight touch on a knob at side of camera; the regulation is by friction, and the release a trigger action.

By a simple device the lens can, when required, be at once removed from its position behind the shutter.

Two sunk and hooded finders are provided, also a strong and neat handle for carrying purposes.

This camera is furnished with fittings whereby it may be secured on a tripod in either a horizontal or vertical position; it possesses many desirable properties, and can, if required, be used for fine focussing at close range.

In point of workmanship it is of the highest kind, everything being neat, substantial and elegant, and in this respect bears out the well-earned reputation of the Collins firm.

——:o:——

Periodical overhauling of one's negatives has a very beneficial action in the reduction of the stock of useless glass, which can be better utilised as covers for lantern plates.—*C. J. Watson.*

Hints on Enlarging.

By A. R. Dresser.

CHAPTER IV.

Having described the various methods of enlarging by daylight, I will give a few hints on enlarging by artificial light. The apparatus I have described (Figs. 1, 2, or 3) can be employed by using an ordinary lantern fitted with limelight, or a good four-wicked lamp, and fine results may be obtained by placing the lantern about 5ft. from the back of the negative. The lens should be taken off the lantern, and the light projected on the negative through the condenser only; you thus gain more light.

The cone of light from the lantern should be larger in diameter than the negative, as in Fig. 7—A, the camera; B, the negative; C. the magic lantern by which the light is thrown on the frame that holds the negative. I find the disc of light (line D D) should be about 3ft. to 4ft. in diameter to get best results when enlarging (or reducing) from 8½in. × 6½in. negative down. When working thus I can get a good enlargement from ¼-plate up to 8in. × 10in., from a fair negative, using Fry's bromide paper, and Beck's 8in. × 10in. R. R. lens (F. 11), with an exposure of from six to eight minutes; or I can reduce to lantern slide in from two to two and a-half minutes. Anyone who is desirous of copying prints, &c., will find this a good way should he want to work after daylight has gone.

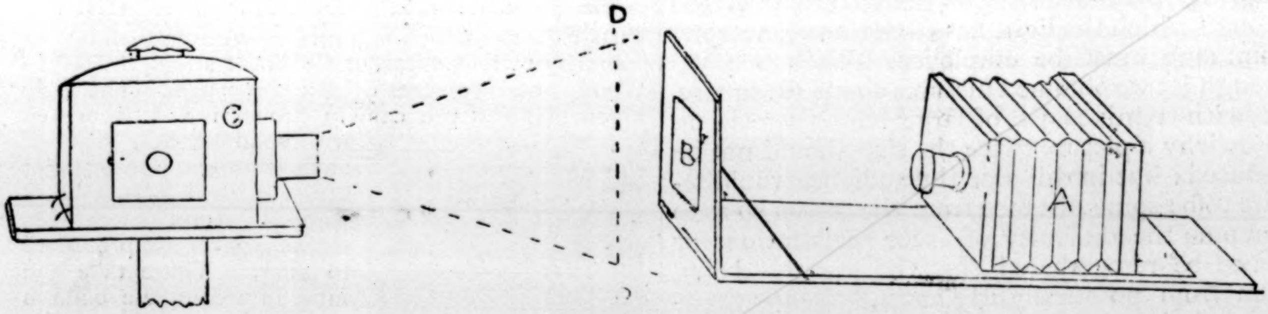


Fig. .

All one has to do is to pin the print on the front of the frame that holds the negative (B, Fig. 3), the print, of course, facing the lens; then throw the light on the picture to be copied, turning the camera round, so that the ground-glass is against the light; then move the lantern back or forward, until the light is thrown evenly on the picture.

My usual plan is to work by daylight; but the other evening a friend called upon me who wanted a few prints copied, and so we tried this way, and got good results, using the same lens (8in. × 10in. R. R., F. 16), and gave exposures of from five to ten minutes, according to size. I used quick plates (*Edwards' isochromatic*), and found they worked well, as the light projected on the picture to be copied was a yellowish light. The limelight was used

To any readers who intend to try this way, I recommend them to use the limelight if they can, the next best being a good oil lantern; and if neither of these are to hand, then use an ordinary oil lamp for focussing, and burn magnesium wire when making the exposure. The exact quantity of wire must be learnt by experiment, as it depends on negative stop, &c.

Another way to enlarge is by the ordinary enlarging lantern, as sold by the various dealers, and if one has not got an enlarging camera as described in Figs. 1, 2, or 3, then the best way is to buy an enlarging lantern of the same form. Of course, if one has only time to enlarge by artificial light, then it would come much cheaper to buy a lantern for enlarging than to buy an enlarging camera as described by me, as the one I describe is meant for daylight enlarging *only*; although it can, as directed, be used with artificial light, but the enlarging camera as sold is better. There are numerous styles in the market from which to choose, and I am unable to say which is the best, as I have only used one kind (the Optimus), and found it very good; but, as I stated before, I have plenty of time to work by daylight, and so prefer that

How I Became a Lanternist.—II.

By the Vice-Chairman of the Lantern Society.

I little thought that a trifling event which took place at least thirty years ago in so remote and straggling a place as Wixhall, Salop, would, as reported through the *Optical Lantern Journal*, come to the eye of any soul then present save myself. Yet it turns out that the son of the school-master at or about that period—viz., Mr. Eeles, now of Birmingham, a lanternist, and who for the love of it, and for the good of others, gives time and money in the propagation of a worthy hobby—makes himself known. I thank him for the most kind and interesting letter which he has sent through the Editor.

I do not know who was the builder of the apparatus that I used for my first exhibition, but I had better describe it. The lantern stood about 8in. high, was about 6in. in width, by probably 7in. back to front. There was a small projection like a reduced pump spout at the front. The lens was a single convex one, inserted somewhere one-third way in a brass tube. The tube slid in the before-mentioned spout or pipe. Seeing that there was a sort of scratched ring on the outside of said brass tube I thrust brass portion into the pipe or spout until the ring joined edge of the pipe.

Perhaps I had better at this stage make a slight digression. I was then as ignorant of such matters as focal length, and of lenses and optics in general, as a church mouse is supposed to be poor, and so I had difficulty in getting anything of a picture for a long time, until at length, by moving and twisting the brass portion in its tin surrounding, discovered that by the extension or contraction, or to put it in the vernacular, by pushing in or drawing out this tube I got my focus. Very simple, is it not?

Now as to my light. There was a little cup or vessel, 2in. high, for oil, 1½in. in breadth, with a small flat wick in the centre, and over this a small glass chimney, held at the top by a finger of wire bent round it. When first lighted the illumination was not powerful, nor was it brilliant, but by the aid of a small condenser, and the lens well focussed, we managed just to show a picture. Then a lot of knowing ones came on the scene, suggesting a lot of chemical mixtures for the oil (sperm), which was being used. Then I thought of a dodge I had learnt in my cycling experience—viz., to insert a piece of alum! It was not, however, much of an improvement. The amount of rubbing, scrubbing, cleaning, and care that was bestowed on this my first lantern—which was only a toy instrument—was perhaps, all things considered, worthy of a better cause. It was only, however, zeal misdirected, in view of the results attained.

MY FIRST REAL SHOW.—My then dining room, neither large nor palatial, but still comfortable, had a white blind to the window which overlooked a long stretch of closely trimmed grass. This might be fitly called a back garden, or by the more dignified name of lawn. Behind this ran a lane, which was separated from my garden by a high wall. Having no better sheet I turned the lantern on to the window blind, and thus got a fair sized disc of some 3½ft. in diameter.

The first series of views consisted of some excellent little hand-painted slides representing storks, cormorants, cranes, &c., together with birds of paradise and parrots. After I had got through the first half-dozen slides, I then put a bird of particularly bright plumage on the window blind, when there was a loud distant cheer heard which came "through the silence of the night." We thought that as there was a children's party going on next door it was from their lusty young throats that the noise proceeded very likely over some childish game. I withdrew the picture and inserted a bright representation of Saturn with his ring "so brightly shining." In a moment there was a low murmur, and I began to discuss how strange it was that the children next door should just time their exclamations or their cheers at the very time that I put on a new picture. Everybody in my audience laughed. They thought, of course, as I did, that it was merely a coincidence. So I proceeded with my lecture on astronomy, a subject in which I was and, alas! am particularly ill informed, though that does not matter much, perhaps, to a lecturer nowadays. I then slipped in a picture that was known as the magic umbrella—an old man stands in the act of opening a vast blue and red thing, a genuine "gamp" and no mistake, done in high art colours (I wish to make that clear). By withdrawing a glass slide quickly, the umbrella opens, and the said old man is discovered sheltering a whole group of folks in clothes not particularly sombre in hue, to say the very least. For instance, there was a man in green trousers; there was also a lady with green bonnet and yellow cloak, which is also a combination I have not seen in real life at present; but no doubt lantern slide artists travel far and wide. Besides this, there was a butcher's boy in red trousers, wearing a sky blue jacket, and on a wooden tray he was supposed to be carrying some green bulky stuff of some kind—we supposed meat. Perhaps they were very old slides. I don't know. Probably at the period when slides like these were produced, there must have been greater gaiety in dress than at the present time, and the effect, or rather the want of effect, is to be noticed in our crowded streets, where very sombre hues prevail. However, no sooner had the umbrella made its appearance than a low moan was heard, but when I withdrew the slide and the whole group of these gaily-clad people were discovered beneath the umbrella there was a loud whoop, which filled the air; in fact, there seemed to be more voices than before.

Some one remarked that there were people in the garden. I said the garden gate was locked. However, to solve the mystery, I went out, and there, sure enough, was the pretty picture on the blind in all its glory, in all the colours of the rainbow, and twice as many more showing in the dark night as distinctly as in-doors. This had not occurred to me previously.

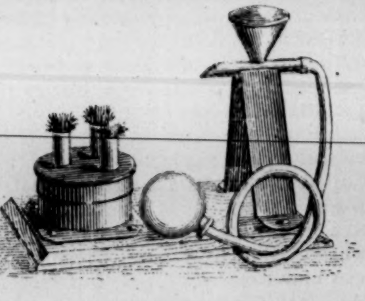
All along the wall were a tribe of boys, not to mention a girl or two, who were enjoying the show from the outside. At the bottom of the garden next door were also a considerable audience, who had brought out chairs, and were standing on the wall and looking over, and thus part of the general public, and the public from the next house, were uniting in cheering the show. It occurred to me that possibly I might pin a shawl behind the blind, and thus stop the outer demonstration, but being loudly assailed with the request. "Go on, sir; go on, sir. Show us some more, sir," I came inside, and stated the dilemma I was in, which at once met with the response in that generous spirit which I am sure all readers will appreciate, "Go on as we are," and so the show proceeded.

——:o:——

Editorial Table.

PHOTOGRAPHERS' DIARY.—This useful desk book, issued by the proprietors of "The Camera," is to hand. It contains a capital portrait of Mr. Ch. H. Bottomley, formulæ, and general information; also a diary, the pages of which are interleaved with blotting paper. It is instructive, useful, and neat; and is published at 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, E.C.; price 1s 6d.

FLASH LAMP.—A flash lamp has been introduced by Mr. E. G Platt, Kingsland, that answers its purpose in all respects. The funnel at the upper portion of the cut is charged with magnesium powder, and pressure on the ball causes it to be blown through a spirit flame. The lamp has three wicks, which causes a large body of flame, so that little of the powder escapes without giving its share of light.



"OPTICAL PROJECTION."—The very fact of this book having been written by such an authority as Mr. Lewis Wright signifies that it is of the highest class. Mr. Wright has in 25 chapters dealt with the subject in a masterly manner. Besides having spoken of the various parts and belongings of the lantern, the author particularises experiments and uses of a high scientific nature, under the headings, "Physiological Demonstration," "Chemistry," "Sound," "Light," "The Spectrum," and others. This work has been written at the suggestion of Mr. Herbert C. Newton (Newton and Co., Fleet-street), and is copiously illustrated by cuts of apparatus manufactured by his firm. It is published by Longmans, Green and Co., London, at 6s. We strongly recommend it to our readers as the most complete treatise published.

MAT SHAPES.—Last August we gave an illustration of a very convenient shape by which a variety of sizes of lantern slide mats could be readily made. We have received from Messrs. R. W. Thomas and Co., Limited, of 10, Pall Mall, S.W., a shape of similar style, but with an improvement by which the exact size of mat aperture can be cut with *great* certainty. The shape is well made in stout brass, and with its aid mats of various shapes and sizes can be cut. All lantern slide makers should obtain one; the price is only a shilling.

Correspondence.

SLIDES FOR HOSPITALS.

[*To the Editor.*]

DEAR SIR,—I thank you very much for throwing out the idea in the Journal about the Hospital Society, and to give practical effect to it I have written to our infirmary here offering to give free lantern entertainments to the patients. But I am without slides, although I have everything else, and to hire them night after night at the ordinary rate will be for me a very expensive matter. Do you think it would be possible for me to get a few through the readers of your Journal, or some of the "cast off" ones of our many lantern societies? I shall gladly pay expense of carriage, and return them if necessary to their owners at the end of the season. Kindly do what you can to assist me in this little matter. I have been a reader of the *Magic Lantern Journal* since it began, and the outcome of reading the first number was that I went straight and bought a lantern.—Yours truly,

A. T. DUNCAN, M.D., *Surgeon.*

163, Coppice-street, Oldham.

[*To the Editor.*]

SIR,—I observe in your issue of Jan. 1 that a movement is on foot for the entertainment of hospital patients by means of lantern slides. I have been in the habit for some years now of showing my lantern to our patients here, and should be very glad to have the loan of some slides from time to time for the purpose. I may add that I have just finished making a screen frame very much like that described by Mr. Hilton Grundy on page 75, ten feet square; total cost 3s. 7d. To make the screen stand up at any angle in a ward so that the bed-ridden patients can see, I have drilled holes through the upright and bolted with a wing, put two brush stales on each side to keep the screen from falling over. I use a pamphengos four-wick, and have been much bothered with the dark line spoken of by Mr. Alfred Watkins, and quite remember dodging the lamps about. I shall cut a hole in the side of the lantern to let the corner of the lamp come out more and get it more askew.—I am, Sir, yours truly, HENRY BLANDY.

1, Postern-street, Nottingham.

EXPLOSIONS.

[*To the Editor.*]

SIR,—"F. J. B.," in last issue, asks for instances of explosions. If he will send his address through you I shall be pleased to give them to him, but naturally shrink from publicly announcing them.—Yours, &c., AMATEUR.

[If "F. J. B." sends us a letter for "Amateur," we shall be pleased to address and post same to its destination.—ED.]

Society Meetings.

BRECHIN PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION. — The usual monthly meeting was held in the association rooms, on Tuesday evening, 13th ult., Mr. George Mackie, vice-president, in the chair. The secretary intimated that the committee had arranged that assistance should be given to beginners on Tuesday evening—Mr. Mackie, developing plates; Mr. Ross, lantern-slides by contact; Mr. Stewart, slides by reduction Mr. Stewart then read his paper, "Through the Highlands with a Camera," which was thoroughly appreciated. The lecture was largely illustrated by lantern slides from Mr. Stewart's negatives. They were of a most interesting character, castle and cottage, mountain and river, glens, waterfalls, &c., &c., and the lecturer's descriptions were all that could be desired. The secretary then showed a number of views of the city and county of York, most of which were excellent productions.

DEWSBURY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY. — Annual meeting, January 8th, 1890. Mr. T. G. Beaumont, president, in the chair. The secretary, Mr. G. Kilburn, read the annual report. The society have held twelve ordinary meetings during the year. Two special meetings have been held—one was for the exhibition of "Photography" prize set of lantern slides; the other was a social evening One paper only has been given during the year, and which was given by the secretary, Mr. G Kilburn, on "Hints in Lantern Slide Making." The society's lantern has been used at many of the meetings. The financial position was considered very satisfactory. The following gentlemen were elected as officers:—President, Mr. A. S. Marriott; vice-president, Mr. C. Naylor; committee, Messrs. J. Taylor, E. Scargill and Mitchell; hon. treasurer and secretary, George Kilburn, re-elected. Mr. Marriott next gave an interesting paper on his "Voyage to South Africa and back." He illustrated his subject by means of lantern slides, and in a most lucid manner, described his journey both on shipboard and his travels during the time he stayed in Africa. Friday, January 16th, a special meeting was held for the purpose of exhibiting the "Photography" prize set of slides. The slides as put through the lantern were freely criticised. Many of them secured the warm admiration of members present. The home portraiture, genre, landscape, and architecture sets were mostly appreciated. Meetings are now held in the Dewsbury and District Technical School.

DUNDEE AND DISTRICT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—On Thursday evening, 15th January, at the usual monthly meeting a fine specimen of Mr. George Smith's (Sciopticon Co's.) "Improved Sciopticon Lanterns" was exhibited. The addition of Edwards' patent dissolver flap shutter and new slide changer, and the powerful pure white light given out by the two patent lamps, with its entire freedom from smoke or smell and easy management, were favourably commented upon. A selection of "Woodbury" slides of statuary, &c., were shown by the Sciopticon on a large ground glass screen, and that method proved a very satisfactory plan of exhibiting those fine slides to the best advantage.

Hackney Photo. Society.—The ordinary meeting was held on 8th January, the president, Dr. Gerard Smith, in the chair. Mr. Dean showed some prints on alpha paper with tones ranging from red to blue. Mr. Barton asked what experience had any of the members of Shew's adapter. The president said he had used one, but has suffered by having fogged plates. Mr. Beckett said he thought a large stand would be necessary. Mr. A. Mackie then gave his demonstration of the collodio-bromide process. Prefacing his demonstration with a short history of the process and its discovery, he made the working of it clear to the non-workers of this charming process. After coating a plate, he proceeded to expose it for about one second by magnesium ribbon, and develop it by a modified alkaline developer, and fix by an ordinary fixing bath. He further illustrated the process by explaining the composition of the emulsion method of preparing it, &c. Lantern slides made by this process were shown on the screen, which were the work of Mr. Mackie and Mr. Hume. The slides in question, before being put through the lantern, were first warmed to prevent being broken by the heat of the lantern.

Newcastle-on-Tyne and Northern Counties' Photographic Association.—The annual meeting of Newcastle and Northern Counties' Photographic Association took place on Tuesday night, the 13th ult., at Mosley-street Cafe, Newcastle, under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Gibson. There was a large attendance of members. The secretary's and treasurer's statements were deferred until next month. It was, however, pointed out that the position of the society was highly satisfactory, inasmuch as the membership during last year was nearly doubled, owing, no doubt, to the impetus given to photography by the highly successful exhibition held in April last at the Art Gallery.

North Middlesex Photographic Society.—The annual general meeting took place at Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, on January 12th, 1891. Mr. J. Humphries, F.S.A., in the chair. Mr. G. R. Martin resigned the secretaryship, and Mr. E. S. Paul the treasurership. Alterations in the rules were made, by which the title was changed from the "North Middlesex Photographic Club" to the "North Middlesex Photographic Society," and the number of the council was increased from eight to twelve. The retiring officers and members of the council received a vote of thanks for their service, and the following officers and members of the council were elected for the ensuing year:—President, J. Humphries, F.S.A.; vice-president, W. S. Goodheed and H. Walker; curator, F. Piper; council, C. Beadle, H. Beckett, F. Cherry, F. W. Cox, C. C. Gill, T. C. Lathbridge, W. A. Lavanchy, C. R. Martin, J. C. S. Mummery, F. L. Pither, J. Saville, H. Smith; treasurer, J. W. Marchant; hon. secretary, J. M'Intosh, 14 Lowman-road, Holloway.

Tay Corinthian Yacht Club, Dundee.—On the evening of Monday, 29th December, this club gave its members a new departure, in the form of an exhibition of all the most famous yachts—from the celebrated "America" and the much coveted cup down to the latest specimen of a 2½ rater—by means of the optical lantern. The slides from Messrs. West & Son, of Southsea, were pronounced the best and the most perfect of yachting subjects ever shown, all being from instantaneous photographs taken by that eminent firm. Selections of yachting studies by Messrs. Wilson were also shown; and some exquisite views of Scottish scenery by the Woodbury process kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. George Smith, of the Sciopticon Company, London, were very much admired. Other yacht clubs might do well to give their members similar lantern exhibitions during the winter months, as we find that a great majority of yachtmen are amateur photographers, both these hobbies fitting very well together.

The Lantern Society.—On 12th ult. Mr. G. W. Nelson, F.R.M.S., gave a lecture on "The Lantern and its Relation to Photography and the Microscope." With the exception of the introduction of petroleum as an illuminant, Mr. Nelson said the lantern had made but little progress during the last twenty-five years. Although many brands of oil were in the market, there were only two kinds refined, and the difference was only one of "label." The hissing of jets could not be remedied in their manufacture, it was simply a question of pressure of gas. Limes in discs he thought preferable to cylinders, as the hole in the latter was the chief cause of their cracking. In his opinion if one could not get along without the numerous adjusting knobs and taps now used, they had better give up the lantern altogether; he preferred an ordinary household tap. He alluded briefly to some of the forms of bye-passes in use which were not capable of adjustment as bad. Several styles of condensers were explained with the aid of diagrams, and their qualities afterwards tested in the lantern. For slides with mats of small aperture, such as many of the microscopic slides shown, a short focus triple condenser gave the best illumination. The lantern was invaluable for showing microscopic work.

Croydon Microscopical Club.—The annual meeting was held on Wednesday, January 21st, at the Public Hall. In his presidential address, Mr. Lovett congratulated the society upon the position of the club, and the successful year's work. Fifteen lectures and papers on subjects of general interest had been read during the year, and the meetings and excursions had been well attended. Mr. Lovett stated that he had obtained a room in the Public Hall which he had fitted up as a dark room and laboratory, and which he now begged to present to the club for the coming year. Mr. Sturge was elected treasurer in the place of Mr. McKean, resigned, and the two vacancies on the committee were filled by Mr. H. D. Gower, hon. secretary (photographic section), and Mr. McKean.

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Mr. H. J. Beasley, of Chancery-lane, has just issued a register of photographic businesses for sale. Those wishing to invest will do well to obtain a copy.

Notes and Queries.

L. J. asks if there is any saving of gas with Noakes's regulator. *Answer.*—Messrs. Noakes claim that in five exhibitions they saved 15ft. of each gas. The probable reason of this is that the gases are so easily and finely adjusted with this regulator that the minimum quantities only are consumed.

S.—Forwarded to writer.

J.—Flat side of lens should be uppermost.

R. Sprules.—Yes. We should suggest that you fasten the plumb indicator spoken of on the swing-back of your camera.

Amateur Mechanic writes that "Lantern" has not yet published the particulars of the lantern he was making, and which he promised some months ago to give. *Reply.*—Our correspondent, "Lantern," is, we believe, engaged on one of the ocean steamers, and it is possible that he has not been back to London since he wrote promising to give the account of his lantern.

R. Kelsey writes to thank "Duffer" for the hint about sticking the cork on rod. He says: "I have often used the rod; but it never occurred to me to make a butt-end that could be readily distinguished. I have since Jan. 3 used the cork, and think it an excellent idea."

Expense says: "I have been very unfortunate this season in breaking the inside lens of the condenser of my lantern. The last three exhibitions I have given I have had the misfortune to break the lens each time, and now that I have had the third new one put in I want to ask your valuable advice, as this sort of thing is ruinous to my pocket-book, as I have no surplus cash to spare. Please don't give me any advice about being more careful, &c., as I am particularly careful, though perhaps not so experienced as many. Is there anything that I can put in front of light that will prevent this in future? Messrs. —— of our town told me that I must have a tank made to contain a solution containing alum and several other things; but this again means money. Do you know of any simple thing I can make myself?" *Answer.*—Place a sheet of clear glass between the light and the condenser. If this should get broken you can easily replace it.

Fascinated.—We think it unwise to go to the expense of having small compound condensers made for the lantern you describe. It is only a 3s. 6d. toy. You can get a proper lantern from 30s. and upwards, from any of our advertisers in the lantern line.

Anxious.—We hear that the lamp referred to is one made by Messrs. Hinks, of Birmingham, for which firm Messrs. Thomas and Co., of Exeter, are agents.

T. B.—Thanks for your kind wishes.

W. H. Farrow.—We are glad to hear that this journal is so highly appreciated by your photographic society.

W. Fenton Jones.—The title you suggest is copyright, there having been a religious paper of that name in existence for a considerable time.

Arcanum.—(1) We said that particulars of *the wheel of life* would appear eventually in our columns, and this is still our intention; if you cannot wait, apply at some of the dealers through whom it can be obtained. (2) We are unable to agree with your statement that "the lantern, as an entertainer and for effects, has had its day." Could you see the vast number of admirable double and triple lanterns kept in stock at the leading establishments in London, all being specially intended for this purpose, your opinion would quickly undergo a change. (3) You quite misapprehend what Mr. Fletcher wrote. What he sought to convey and did convey was that the subjects to which he briefly referred would bear being elaborated.

W. E. G.—(1) The distance between the lime and the jet cannot be determined by any hard and fast rule, it is governed to a great extent by the pressure of gas and the size of nipple. A trial will enable you to find the best distance suited to your burner, probably about ¼in. (2) When the lime becomes pitted the light will become deteriorated; a fresh surface of lime should then be presented to the stream of gas. (3) We do not know the carrier by the name (Reliable) mentioned; if you mean the ordinary sliding carrier for two pictures, it is an excellent kind. (4) Turn off oxygen first. (5) Scott's warm air saturator.

James Wright.—A concave lens would be useless—it would disperse the light. We do not understand clearly what part of lantern you want to improve. You speak of the concave lens being 3in. in diameter; if the condensers the same, you cannot cover the corners of cushion mats.

W. C., Junr.—The tubes must be able to stand a certain amount of internal force, as the gas at jet is emitted at considerable pressure. Mr. J. H. Steward, 406, Strand, has a clip (which is sold for a few pence) for obviating the inconvenience of which you speak. See illustration and description in our issue of last September.

H. Howe writes: Will you kindly inform me the quantity of chlorate of potash required to fill a 4ft. gas bag? Answer: About 1lb.

W. S.—See our back numbers, and "Optical Projection" (Longmans).

G. Bennett.—The new form of lamp about which you inquire is not a commercial article; you would require to get the apparatus made. A continuous light has been maintained for three hours by pouring a mixture of magnesium and sand from a reservoir into a flame.

Lightning writes: (1) How small could phosphorescence tubes be made to give enough light to read type; and is luminous paint as made by the new German process to be obtained in England? (2) Is there such a thing as transparent looking glass? (3) Can enlargements be made on uranium, potassium, and ferrous (iron) paper? (4) Where can I obtain either a description (or the article itself) of a lantern called a lampadorama, which enables opaque as well as transparent slides to be projected? *Answer.*—(1) Flattened tubes about a half-inch wide, excited by sunlight or magnesium, may answer. If it is your intention to try and read lantern lectures by this form of light it will not answer. We think that you could get the paint from Messrs. W. C. Horne, 6, Dowgate-hill, Cannon-street, E.C. Mr. T. Bolas, 8, Grove-terrace, Chiswick, London, W., is a consulting expert on this subject, and a professional consultation would enable you to obtain much valuable information. (2) Yes; by depositing silver upon glass just sufficiently thick to enable it to reflect and yet be transparent. (3) Yes; but a solar camera must be used. (4) We never heard of a lampadorama. Perhaps some reader may assist.

A. Yardley.—We may have something to say in next issue on cutting lamp wicks.

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MR. T. SMITH, of 28, Naval-row, Poplar, E., writes: "I see that on Christmas Day 'The Brixton and Clapham Camera Club gave a lantern exhibition in the London Hospital.' May I also state that one was given in the Currie Ward of the above building by myself, which gave immense satisfaction to the patients and nurses?"

MR. D. W. Noakes, the popular lantern manufacturer, of Greenwich, some few months ago took an extensive river and canal trip in his steam launch, and having used his Key hand camera to advantage, has made an interesting collection of lantern slides, and has also written an amusing description of the journey. On Jan. 21 he gave at the Greenwich Library and Club a dioramic entertainment, entitled, "England Bisected with a Steam Launch," at which were exhibited upwards of 100 of the views. A large and appreciative audience were in attendance, and so universally was the entertainment enjoyed, that it is to be hoped Mr. Noakes may again favour the club, as such a good thing will bear repetition. Should Mr. Noakes decide to place the lecture and set upon the market it should have a large sale.